Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 14 on page 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~It is an object~~ One aspect consistent with the principles of the present invention is directed to ~~provide~~ providing a circuit emulation apparatus and a frame length compensation method by which, when an STS-(NxM) frame formed by multiplexing M STS-N frames formed from different channels is cellularized into ATM cells or M different STS-N frames assembled from ATM cells are multiplexed into an STS-(NxM) frame, even if an STS-N frame of an abnormal length is detected, the frame length can be compensated for while preventing an overflow of a reassembly buffer in the circuit emulation apparatus.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 23 on page 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In order to attain the ~~object described~~ above, according to an aspect of the present invention, there is provided an STS frame-ATM cell circuit emulation apparatus for cellularizing an STS-(NxM) formed by multiplexing M STS-N frames formed from different channels into ATM cells and multiplexing M different STS-N frames assembled from ATM cells into an STS-(NxM) frame, comprising circuit termination means for inputting and outputting frame data from and to a circuit, buffer means for inputting and outputting an ATM cell sync signal and ATM cell data from and to an ATM switch, and segmentation means and reassembly means connected between the circuit termination means and the buffer means, the circuit termination means outputting frame data from the circuit as a frame pulse signal and frame data to the segmentation

means, the segmentation means outputting the frame pulse signal and the frame data from the circuit termination means as an ATM cell sync signal and ATM cell data to the buffer means, the buffer means temporarily storing and then outputting the ATM cell sync signal and the ATM cell data from the segmentation means to the ATM switch, the buffer means temporarily storing and then outputting the ATM cell sync signal and the ATM cell data from the ATM switch to the reassembly means, the reassembly means detecting a frame of an abnormal length from the ATM cell sync signal and the ATM cell data from the buffer means, compensating, when a frame of an abnormal length is detected, for the frame length of the frame with a next frame and outputting a resulting frame as a frame pulse signal and frame data to the circuit termination means.